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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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PIGGYBACK HITS ALL-TIME HIGH

WASHINGTON, January 7, 1983 -- Piggyback traffic on Class I U.S. railroads in 1982 showed an increase over 1981 and exceeded the previous high set in 1979, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Piggyback carloadings in 1982 totaled 1,923,225, up 9.9 percent from the previous year, and 3.5 percent higher than 1979. The number of trailers and containers carried totaled 3,385,172, a 7.6 percent gain over 1981, also a new high.

TOFC/COFC loadings accounted for 10.4 percent of total rail carloadings in 1982 and remained second only to coal -- the long-time leader -- as a source of railroad traffic.

Piggyback traffic for the holiday week ended December 25 totaled 31,516 cars, 29.9 percent above the corresponding holiday week of 1981, and 55,307 trailers and containers, 28.4 percent higher than 1981.

The AAR also reported that total freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the New Year's holiday week ended January 1 totaled 10.7 billion ton-miles, 15.6 percent below the corresponding week of 1982.

Total carloadings on major railroads for the January 1 week were 235,360, down 18.5 percent from the comparable holiday week of 1982 and 10.5 percent lower than the preceding Christmas week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 28.8 percent in the East, 16.8 percent in the South, and 13.3 percent in the West.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/1/83:

	Loadings in Week ended January 1,1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	16,969	D	1,751	9.4	D	2,248	11.7
Other farm products	3,809	D	592	13.5	I	219	6.1
Metallic ores	9,667	D	9,174	48.7	D	675	6.5
Coal	61,104	D	32,161	34.5	D	20,122	24.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	5,123	D	547	9.6	I	952	22.8
Nonmetallic minerals	9,014	I	462	5.4	I	637	7.6
Grain mill products	10,124	D	114	1.1	I	25	0.2
Food and kindred products	9,923	D	1,189	10.7	D	129	1.3
Primary forest products	9,275	D	1,526	14.1	I	1,668	21.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	4,699	I	823	21.2	D	241	4.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	10,407	D	1,525	12.8	D	1,827	14.9
Chemicals and allied products	20,138	D	1,928	8.7	I	3,904	24.0
Petroleum products	3,951	D	370	8.6	I	199	5.3
Stone, clay and glass products	6,879	D	1,479	17.7	I	376	5.8
Coke	3,664	D	830	18.5	D	483	11.6
Metals and products	4,976	D	4,739	48.8	I	275	5.8
Motor vehicles and equipment	5,344	I	921	20.8	D	3,323	38.3
Waste and scrap materials	4,121	D	1,474	26.3	D	597	12.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	4,972	D	473	8.7	D	920	15.6
All other carloads	31,092	I	4,282	16.0	D	5,432	14.9
LCL traffic	109	I	23	17.4	I	5	4.8
Total Cars Loaded	235,360	D	53,407	18.5	D	27,737	10.5
Corresponding week of 1982	288,767						

	1983	1982	% Change	
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
Week ended January 1	10.7	12.6	D	15.6

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